

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please CANCEL claims 1-12 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the recited subject matter.

Please ADD new claims 13-25, as follows. For the Examiner's convenience, all claims currently pending have been reproduced below.

1-12. (Canceled)

13. (New) A nozzle arrangement for a fluidized bed gasifier or combustor, said nozzle arrangement comprising:

a nozzle piece attached to a nozzle tube or forming one entity with said nozzle tube, the nozzle piece comprising a nozzle chamber and a horizontally extending nozzle channel ending at a blow opening of said nozzle, said nozzle chamber and said nozzle channel being limited from above by a lid; and

a protecting cover attached outside the lid for minimizing cooling of the outer surface of the nozzle piece due to fluidizing gas blown through the nozzle into the fluidized bed gasifier or combustor.

14. (New) A nozzle arrangement in accordance with claim 13, wherein said protecting cover is attached spaced apart from the lid.

15. (New) A nozzle arrangement in accordance with claim 13, wherein said protecting cover comprises a cover plate and ribs arranged at least to the periphery thereof.

16. (New) A nozzle arrangement in accordance with claim 13, wherein said protecting cover is attached to the lid by means of ribs at least at the periphery of the protecting cover.

17. (New) A nozzle arrangement in accordance with claim 13, further comprising heat insulation arranged between the lid and the protecting cover.

18. (New) A nozzle arrangement in accordance with claim 13, wherein the protecting cover is attached to the lid at all sides, except for the one on the blow opening side of the nozzle.

19. (New) A nozzle arrangement in accordance with claim 15, wherein the protecting cover is attached to the lid by ribs extending to the side surfaces of said lid.

20. (New) A nozzle arrangement in accordance with claim 16, wherein the protecting cover is attached to the lid by ribs extending to the side surfaces of said lid.

21. (New) A nozzle arrangement in accordance with claim 13, further comprising means arranged at the blow opening end of the nozzle channel for forming a rising gas flow to the front of the blow opening.

22. (New) A nozzle arrangement in accordance with claim 13, further comprising a smooth bump located on the upper surface of the nozzle channel and extending substantially

throughout the whole width thereof and arranged at the blow opening end of the nozzle channel for forming a rising gas flow in the front of the blow opening.

23. (New) A nozzle arrangement in accordance with claim 13, wherein the protecting cover is made of the same material as that of the lid.

24. (New) A nozzle arrangement in accordance with claim 13, wherein the protecting cover is attached by welding to the lid or to the sides of the lid.

25. (New) A nozzle arrangement in accordance with claim 13, wherein the protecting cover is ceramic.